

Arsenal Unit To Undergo Modification

Construction work on a modification project at the Joliet Arsenal Elwood unit is expected to start in March, it was made known Saturday by Col. Samuel W. Parnelle Jr., commanding officer.

The project will involve the rearrangement and modification of one existing ammunition loading line to permit the loading, assembly and packing of new ammunition items.

Construction work on the project will be performed under the supervision of the Chicago District Engineer, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army. That office has awarded a contract for architect-engineer services to Graham, Anderson, Probst and White, Inc., of Chicago, and is expected to announce the successful bidder on the construction contract early this spring. Information on the need for construction workers will become available at that time.

Col. Parnelle estimated that the construction would be completed by Jan. 1, 1960.

No increase in the permanent work force at the Arsenal's Elwood Unit is foreseen as a result of the project, according to Col. Parnelle.

The project will not require any enlargement of the present acreage at the Joliet Arsenal.

This modification of existing government owned facilities for the production of new items is in accordance with a Department of the Army policy to achieve the maximum possible economy and to make use of trained workers by utilizing plants already in existence to the greatest extent practicable, Col. Parnelle said.